



## Developing Literacy at Home

### Easy Tips to Help Your Child

#### TIPS FOR PARENTS

#### WHAT IS LITERACY?

Literacy relates to the ability to read, write and communicate effectively. Your child's success in school depends on literacy. It includes having strong oral language skills, being able to recognize letters and words in print, and eventually being able to write.

#### WHY IS HOME LITERACY IMPORTANT?

Parents are always a child's first teachers! Students will be more successful with more support from home. The more exposure your child has to literacy at school and at home, the more prepared they will be to do well in school.

#### NATIVE LANGUAGE

Children who have a great foundation in their native language have an easier time acquiring a second language. We encourage you to continue to talk, sing and read to your children in your home language. It will strengthen your family relationships and help your child in school!



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#### EAT DINNER TOGETHER

Eating dinner together gives parents and children a great opportunity to talk together and build oral language skills. Ask your child about school, their friends, their favorite show or movie, etc. Talk to them about colors and shapes found in the food and dishes at the table.

#### SING SONGS

Teach your child your favorite songs from your childhood. Tell them about your memories.

#### READ TOGETHER

Read to your child daily! Reading in English is fantastic, but it is also very important to read to your child in their native language (Spanish, Mandarin, etc). If you have trouble finding books in your native language, try using websites like amazon.com.

#### BEDTIME ROUTINES: SNUGGLES AND STORIES

Bedtime is the perfect time to snuggle with your child and share special stories. Read your favorite books or share stories you create yourself. Let your imaginations run wild!

#### DRAW PICTURES TOGETHER

Encourage your child to draw pictures and share with you descriptions and stories about the pictures. Write down what your child says.

#### CAR RIDES = FUN!

Flip off the radio and play games in the car!

I Spy something... Red!

What rhymes with... hat?

Name that tune!

#### SUPER STAR PARENTS

Anytime you try any of these tips, your child will think you are a Super Star! You are the most important person and teacher in your child's life. Working together we will pave the path to success for your little star!

